

A fluid control apparatus for use with a surgical irrigation and aspiration instrument adapted for irrigation and aspiration of a surgical site located in a small elastic chamber, said fluid control apparatus comprising:

an irrigation fluid conduit for conducting irrigation fluid from a source of irrigation fluid to the surgical site,

an aspiration fluid conduit means for removing fluid from the surgical site,

a suction means in fluid communication with said aspiration fluid conduit means for providing suction in said aspiration fluid conduit means,

a liquid pressure equalizing means for admitting irrigation liquid from the source of irrigation fluid to said aspiration fluid conduit means when a blockage occurs therein to vent the vacuum therein,

said liquid pressure equalizing means includes a pressure equalizing conduit providing communication for the irrigation fluid from said irrigation fluid conduit means to said aspiration fluid conduit means.

said pressure equalizing conduit connects directly to said irrigation fluid conduit means so that the irrigation liquid can flow through at least a portion of said irrigation fluid conduit means to said aspiration fluid conduit means.

Claim 54, line 1, change "54" to -- 63 -- and change "53" to -- 62 --.

[55.] <sup>4/2</sup> ~~64-~~ (Amended) [The apparatus of Claim 21 wherein]

A fluid control apparatus for use with a surgical irrigation and aspiration instrument adapted for irrigation and aspiration of a surgical site located in a small elastic chamber,